

NEW JERSEY AND STATEN ISLAND

SPRING ELECTIONS ORDERED BY COURT.

The New Jersey Democrats Achieve a Notable Victory.

EXTENSION LAW BEATEN.

Declared Unconstitutional by Supreme Court Justices Gummere and Garrison.

JOY IN JERSEY CITY AND NEWARK.

Rebuke of the Republicans Arouses Democratic Enthusiasm, and a Sweeping Victory in Both Cities is Expected.

Justices Gummere and Garrison, sitting as a special branch of the Supreme Court in Trenton yesterday, granted the mandamus asked for by Edward Hoos, the Democratic nominee for Mayor of Jersey City, requiring an election to be held in that city on April 13, despite the law recently enacted postponing the election until November. The law is declared unconstitutional. Newark also comes under the decision.

It was noon when Justices Gummere and Garrison signified a readiness to hear counsel on the matter. The lawyers in the case, Allan McDermott, Senator W. D. Daly and John Griffin, for Candidate Hoos, and Charles L. Corbin and C. W. Riker for the law, together with Major Lenz and a half a score of politicians, were on hand early.

As soon as Justice Garrison announced that the Court would hear counsel, Mr. McDermott said an agreement had been reached as to the practice on the lines suggested by the Court. As to an appeal from the decision against Mr. Hoos, he did not think it would be of any use to the relator, yet he wanted to have advantage of the statute of 1896, relating to agreement of counsel, and he felt in a position to go ahead, should the tentative writ not be made a peremptory writ of mandamus ordering an election.

For Writ of Error.
Mr. Corbin said the respondent, City of Jersey, wanted to be heard upon an equal footing with the relator, and he said, in the event of the writ being made a peremptory writ commanding the election, they wanted to preserve their statute right and be able to take a writ of error. He said he had an interview with Chancellor Ill and other members of the Court of Chancery, and they recognized the importance of the matter and had practically agreed to grant a writ of error in such a case.

On Monday and hear argument on appeal in case a writ of error was sued by either side.
After a consultation the Justices said they would allow the peremptory writ of mandamus, which orders the election in Jersey upon the stipulated agreement entered by counsel at the outset of the case, and the Court originally consented to the cause at once, and the further on that counsel place the matter in for either side to appeal if a writ of error is desired. Justices Gummere and Garrison each wrote opinions on the constitutionality of the law, and each reached the same conclusions. Justice Garrison part in his opinion.

The Opinion.
The question to be decided is whether relating to cities of the first class in the State, and providing for the holding of an election or charter elections therein and the terms of elective and appointive officers therein, approved March 18, 1896, is a constitutional enactment under Section 7, Article II, of the Constitution which forbids the passage by the use of any local or special law relating to the internal affairs of towns and cities. Inasmuch as the statute cited is a regulation of the internal affairs of the cities affected by it, the issue is whether it is unconstitutional.

The cities having a population of 100,000 ward be selected from among the cities of the State for the purpose of this act? A uniform line of deposing the constitutional provision that narrows the question to the form, viz: Is the subject matter of this act one that is naturally incident to the government of a city?

Statute Partially Invalid.
The statute under review is fatally invalid in that the Legislature therein has that a voter in Newark or Jersey City, who is a citizen of the State, and who is qualified to vote in the election for municipal officers, is not permitted to exercise his franchise in the election for State or national officers, and shall vote upon these issues under conditions wherein the issues may dominate, whereas throughout the State no such are permitted or experienced.

It is not the duty of the courts to question the policy of the law, but it is the duty of the courts to say that the policy of the law is a public one, and is not to be questioned by the courts, and that it can lawfully be limited to the extent of the mischief that it is to remedy.

These views, I am of the opinion, the statute referred to is void. In the proceedings before us a mandamus should issue, commanding the City Clerk to print the ballots for the General Election law of 1896.

Justice Gummere (Republican) in his opinion against the McArthur act as does his Democratic colleague, and on almost the same grounds.

Joy in Jersey City.
The jubilation in Jersey City they could be more startled than they are by the news of the Supreme Court's decision. From the day the decision was announced, the city has been in a state of excitement. The Democrats are confident of a sweeping victory, and the Republicans are in a state of despair. The city is expected to be a scene of great rejoicing.

OWN UP.

Washington, N. J., April 1.—It is said that the heirs of Peter Parks intend to compel Farmer Charles Blazer to tell how much money was in the tin box he found while pulling down the dilapidated house on his farm, south of here, last week. If it is a considerable sum they will sue to obtain it.

Every school boy in this neighborhood is familiar with the details of the Castner-Parks murder, in 1893. Old Peter Parks, who was wealthy, lived with the Castners, Joseph Parks, a relative, and Joseph Carter, on the night of May 1, 1893, went to the Castner homestead, in Changewater, and murdered every occupant of the house save two babes.

When the murder was discovered the next day, it was learned that Parks's tin treasure box, which was known to have contained upward of \$50,000 at times, was missing. Carter, one of the murderers, admitted having possession of the box, but would not reveal its hiding place. The murderers died on the scaffold at Belvidere without disclosing its whereabouts.

The house that Blazer tore down last week was the one in which Carter lived at the time of the murder. When asked about the tin box yesterday, Blazer said:

"Yes, I found the box and there was money in it. It had been hidden there for many years. The coins were covered with rust."

Blazer is a close-mouthed man, and nothing in his speech or manner could be regarded as an indication of whether the box

contained \$50,000 or a few insignificant coins.

FRANCHISE FIGHT IN COURT.
Justice Smith Reserves Decision in the Staten Island Electric Railroad Contest.

The Spring term of the Richmond County Supreme Court, which opened on March 15, was brought to a close last night at Richmond, S. I. The day was taken up with hearing testimony and argument in the suit of the village of New Brighton against the Staten Island Electric Railroad Company. The action is the outcome of the struggle between the defendant company and the Midland Railroad Company for the franchise to build and operate a trolley railroad on Castleton avenue.

The franchise was originally given to the Staten Island Electric Company, which has laid its tracks. The first section was laid in December under guard, and the efforts of a majority of the village trustees to prevent the construction of the road were forcibly resisted.

After the hearing Justice Smith directed that briefs be submitted, and reserved decision.

RICHMOND TOO FAR AWAY.
Staten Island Supervisors Asked to Provide a Court Room in St. George.

Lawyer W. Allaire Shortt has presented to the Staten Island Supervisors a petition signed by every member of the bar on Staten Island, asking the Board to hire a room over the First National Bank at the ferry landing, St. George, to be used as a court room for the Supreme Court Judges and the Surrogate of the county.

At present, unless the cases are ready when the regular term of court is being held, the lawyers have to go to New York and Brooklyn, as the judges of the higher courts will not go to Richmond, S. I. It is likely the Supervisors will engage the room.

KITCHEN BOILER EXPLODED.
Luckily the Water Was Not Hot and Mrs. Jacobson Escaped Injury.

Mrs. George Jacobson, of South Second street, Plainfield, N. J., had a narrow escape Wednesday night from a serious calamity by the bursting of a water boiler attached to the range in the kitchen. She was engaged about the range when the boiler exploded with a report that was heard by all the neighbors. She was knocked to the door and partially dazed, while the water, which was very hot, flooded the kitchen.

Jacobson ran to his wife's rescue and found her in a room where she was sitting. She was not injured, but the kitchen was a scene of confusion. The boiler was found to be defective and was removed.

SQUATTERS OF THE SOUTH COVE GONE.

Ruins Like Wreckage of Vessels Where Homes Were.

A QUIET DESTRUCTION.

Matthew Bradley Expressed the Thoughts of His Fellow Denizens.

At the South Cove in Jersey City, last night, one could get the impression of a savage coast, a coast of barbarity, strewn with wrecks of vessels. There were hulls upright in the mud, skeletons of barges, fragments of cabins, black planks, splinters, iron, a baby carriage with blue plush cushion, furniture and colored lithographs. In the mass men who might have posed as buccaners were walking.

There were no more squatters on the land which the Lehigh Valley Railroad has leased. A locomotive engine, which was a juggernaut, a body of workmen, with picks, axes and ropes, under quick orders, protected by two divisions of the police, had done the work of destruction, legally, quietly and without impatience.

The special order of business at the meeting of the Staten Island Supervisors' meeting on Wednesday was the opening of a

new boulevard along the ocean on the south shore, extending from South Beach to Totterville, a distance of about eleven miles. The boulevard, if built on the lines laid down by some of the prominent men who appeared before the Supervisors, would eclipse anything of its kind on the island.

Among the projectors of the scheme are David J. Tipon, David Bennett, the trustee of Erasmus W. Wainwright, W. A. Johnston and many other prominent men. It is said that it will only cost about \$15,000 to lay out and grade the boulevard, and so per cent of the land west meeting of the Board. From St. George the boulevard could be reached in less than fifteen minutes. At present it is impossible to drive along the beach, as there are no roads, and the shore is very rough.

Missing Minister Is Returning.
Hammon, N. J., April 1.—Rev G. D. Coleman, who mysteriously disappeared from his home in this city last September for some unknown cause, and whose whereabouts were unknown until December, when he was discovered in Mexico City, is on his way to this city, and is expected daily. Many people are anxiously awaiting his arrival.

STRIKES IN THREE NEW JERSEY MANUFACTURING CENTRES.
One Hundred Disappointed Italians Quit Work in Rocky Hill Quarry.

One hundred Italians, employed by the Rocky Hill quarry, near New Brunswick, N. J., struck for higher wages yesterday morning. They have been working for 50 cents per hour, and expected an increase to go into effect yesterday morning. The manager announced that he would not go into effect yesterday morning, but the workers would not work until their demands were met.

Masons in Montclair Bring Seven Bosses to Terms; Two Others Hold Out.
The masons of Montclair, N. J., numbering 150, and belonging to the Montclair Masons' Union, went on strike yesterday morning for an increase of wages from \$3 to \$3.50 per day. Late yesterday afternoon seven of the bosses had yielded to the demands, but two others will hold out. One of them, named Roberts, who has the contract for building several houses on the coast, owned by a syndicate among his men, is expected to be developed. At the

Two Hundred Weavers Desert Their Looms in Paterson Silk Factories.
In Paterson, N. J., yesterday one hundred weavers employed by Terry Brothers, manufacturers of silk ribbons, struck, after being refused piecework, increases of from 20 to 25 per cent.

Another one hundred went out at Anderson Brothers' mill, after a demand for an increase of 15 per cent on their piecework. They were refused, and the strike was general.

STOPPED THE WEDDING.
John Frasier, Who Courted Cora Sandoz, Faced by His Wife and Children.

Vineyard, N. J., April 1.—Happily looking forward to her coming wedding, eighteen-year-old Cora Sandoz was as light and gay as a bird until last night, when her hopes were suddenly and rudely blighted. Now she is heartbroken and refuses to be comforted.

John Frasier, who came from Philadelphia several months ago to work in a shoe factory here, succeeded, after an earnest and persistent courtship, in gaining the love of Miss Sandoz. The girl's parents objected to his attentions, and finally, when the marriage was talked of, they engaged Constable Nickerson to look up the history of Frasier, who is thirty-six years of age.

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HORSES DRAGGED HER ALONG.

Mrs. Hilpot and Lenford Mills, of Frenchtown, Injured in a Runaway.

Flemington, N. J., April 1.—Lenford Mills and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Michael Hilpot, of Frenchtown, are laid up with serious injuries. They were on a wagon that was removing their household effects from Frenchtown to Erlwina, Pa. While going down a hill the load slid forward, throwing Mills and Mrs. Hilpot under the horses' feet.

The horses ran away, and the reins caught Mrs. Hilpot about the neck, and she was dragged several hundred yards before the horses were stopped. The flesh was torn from her face, and nearly all her hair was torn out, while her scalp was cut by bumping against the ground. The wheels of the wagon passed over Mills, cutting his face and making a big gash in his forehead. Both were unconscious when picked up.

STOLE HIS WEDDING.
W. H. Addoms Says the Burglar came to All Else They mourned the loss of a watch from his wife on Thursday, between 2 and 5 o'clock morning, entered his house, stole the watch, and jewelry. He offers a reward of \$100 for the watch, and says he can keep the other plunder.

The burglars climbed over the stairs, unlocked the door, and entered the room. They found the watch and jewelry, and took them. The burglar was seen by the wife, but she did not catch him. The watch was a gold watch, and the jewelry consisted of a ring and a bracelet.

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